

# THE LIVES of STAGELAND



JEFF DE ANGELIS

(From Our New York Dramatic Correspondent.)

JEFFERSON DE ANGELIS, who has sentenced himself to musical comedy for life, has found little or no difficulty in attracting the public to his latest offering. This time De Angelis appears in a lively "music dramette," bearing the euphonious appellation of "The Girl and the Governor," and just now he is holding forth at the Manhattan theater.

The authors of the piece are S. M. Brenner and Julian Edwards. They have not produced a classic, but, like a real watch, it goes. To use an expression deprecably unpopular in "our set," the play "keeps on a move."

In two long acts, scenes laid in South America, the narrative unfolds in one about a wicked governor of a Spanish colony who would wed the lady of some one else's choice. Of course De Angelis is the only member of the cast wicked enough to play the governor.

Several song hits enliven the evening. One is "I've a Very Nasty Temper," which Estelle Wentworth sings very engagingly. Another is "Have You Ever Heard It Told That Way Before?"

Joseph Miron in an Indian song and as an Indian medicine man was all to the wampum.

Harrigan Revives "Old Lavender."

Somebody, I suspect it was Walter N. Lawrence, has picked up Ed and Harrigan and given him a hypodermic injection of the virus of life. May-way, Harrigan has been coaxed into reviving "Old Lavender" again, and he

has already taken in a few dollars, as well as people. Harrigan's day is over, and some good friend should lead him to one side and gently tell him so.

After his experience in New England a few years ago, when those members of the "Old Lavender" company that had shoes walked back to New York, one would have thought that even Harrigan would have "got on" to the fact that he ought to retire.

"The Sunken Bell" Again.

In Harrigan's "The Sunken Bell" at the Lyric theater, Julia Marlowe and E. H. Sothern gave another illuminating performance. While the play has

been presented in America several times by other players, the Southern-Marlowe rendition has proved to be the best. They used the version and translation of Charles Henry Meltzer, one time critic, who writes occasional plays and who houses the press department of Corried's Metropolitan opera house.

Jessie Busley as Nance Olden. Not in many years probably has there been upon the stage a more pronounced instance of the actress filling the part than is exemplified this season in the engagement of Jessie Busley in "The Bishop's Carriage." Originally the play was given with another actress in the

principal part, and it failed to strike the proper chord in the breasts of the audience and was laid aside until the right young woman might come along. Then in a moment of inspiration the manager of the play thought of Jessie Busley, a well known young actress who had played many different parts, and he made a special trip to Chicago for the purpose of seeing her.

The result was that within three weeks from the time this trip was made Miss Busley was sent forth as the star of the company, and "The Bishop's Carriage" was, instead of a doubtful vehicle, a real dramatic hit.

In this play Miss Busley plays a girl

creature of unusual emotions. She knows no other life than that of the criminal, and yet she is awakened to the abnormality of the life she is leading by sudden and unexpected contact with a gentleman. Love, of course, is the keynote of the regeneration that is worked in her, and it is in this transition from the lowest type to the brilliant specimen of womanhood which Nance accomplishes that Miss Busley shows the full depth of her art. This is no sudden awakening, but a change that takes place almost in spite of the girl herself. It comes over her so gradually that she is herself almost unaware of it, and it is not until the full realization of her position dawns upon her that the pure soul of the woman in love for the first time in her life reveals itself.

Part of the success this play has achieved is due to the play itself, for it is a strong drama. Filled with carefully wrought situations, it has a curious appeal that is attractive, and there are directness and tenseness about it. After all is said, however, it is to Miss Busley that the honors fall, and her success is due unquestionably to the depth of her experience.

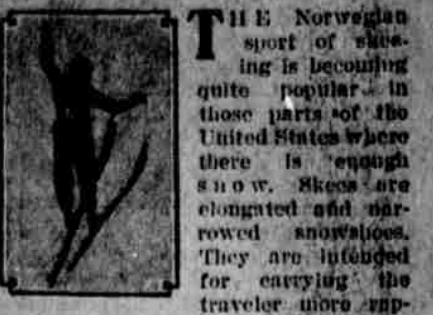
Frederick Tringelka

JESSIE BUSLEY AS NANCE OLDEN

JESSIE BUSLEY

SCENE IN THE BISHOP'S CARRIAGE

## The Joys of Skee Jumping



THE Norwegian sport of skee jumping is becoming quite popular in those parts of the United States where there is enough snow. Skees are elongated and narrow snowshoes. They are intended for carrying the traveler more rapidly over the snow than he could go on the ordinary snowshoe used by some of the northern American Indians. As a matter of fact, skees are used also as flying machines on a limited scale. That is where the fun comes in. Skee jumping it is called.

The Norwegians and Swedes who pioneered the states of Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin introduced the skee. They had been used to it at home. They found plenty of deep snow and the necessary hills for the sport in their adopted country, and gradually taught their neighbors, the born Americans, the usefulness and the joys of skee jumping. There is a national skee jumping association, which holds annual tournaments in Minnesota or Michigan, at which contests in skee jumping and running are held. There is nothing so exciting as these tournaments. Washington's birthday was chosen for the date this year and Red Wing, Minn., as the place for the tournaments.

For skee jumping a steep, long hill is selected, where the snow is several feet deep. If no satisfactory hill be found, a sort of toboggan slide is rigged up for use as the first and steepest part of the course. The skiers climb to the top of this on ladders or walk up along the side of the snow covered track. Far down the course is the bump or take-off, which is an obstruction built of wood and covered with snow. The runner strikes this and leaps into the air. That is where the



## The Roller Skating Craze Here and Abroad—Fight Talk

THE roller skating craze which "struck" this country a year ago did not die out, but, contrarily, caused hundreds of athletic people to give the sport lasting attention. Today the pastime seems even more popular than it was ten, fifteen or twenty years ago, when almost every one owned and used a pair of the wheeled shoes.

In several cities roller skate races have become regular features of each week's sport. Championships and records are coveted as jealously as in running, swimming and ice skating. In New York city alone five rinks are flourishing.

### Popular Outdoor Sport.

In many cities and towns where indoor rinks are not available the sport has to be followed, of course, on the streets and sidewalks. Children play a striking variety of games on roller skates in addition to using them for pleasure trips and for going on errands.



DAN J. KELLY, WORLD'S FASTEST SPRINTER.

Dan J. Kelly, who will pace at the Madison Square (N. Y.) exposition games, is the world's greatest sprinter. He is a member of the Multnomah Athletic club of Oregon and of the team of the University of Oregon. He holds the world's records of 5-5 seconds for the 100 yards and 21-5 seconds for the 220 yards.

Roller skates can, in fact, be put to so many uses that it would not surprise the writer to see postmen and policemen equipped with them some day to expedite them in their labors. Anyway, a great deal of time could thus be saved.

England, too, has been overrun again by the roller skaters. These attractive implements should not, according to many, have been neglected on account of the advent of the safety bicycle.

### London Has the Craze.

In the city of London so many are now using roller skates that the public authorities have had to step in and make official resolutions to provide for the accommodation of these persons.

The London city council has originated the practice of setting aside certain parts of walks, streets and parks for a period of several hours each day for the use of roller skaters.

A part of Southwark park, for instance, is reserved for six hours each morning for roller skaters, and Finsbury park is in part restricted for them in the same manner.

### Example For American Cities.

This London innovation gives a valuable suggestion for American cities, authorities that are at a loss to provide facilities for roller skaters. The London scheme could be followed advantageously to all concerned. The roller skaters would be given improved facilities for their favorite amusement, and so they would surely vote to keep in office the authorities that so benefited them.

### John L. Versus Jim Jeffries.

In a recent interview John L. Sullivan discussed the favorite topic of talk of many fight fans. This topic, of course, is "What kind of a showing would John L. Sullivan in his prime have made against Jim Jeffries?"

John L. sets all argument at rest by stating: "In my prime I honestly believe I could have defeated Jeffries in ten rounds on the turf with London prize ring rules. He is a great man, you know, a great fighter, but he is too heavy to last in a really fast bout. And, you know, he never was a great hitter."

Poor old John L. Either he is a candidate for the funny house or else some dust has blown into his thick works. Mayhap and likewise perchance, he is talking for the advertising it gives him for his vaudeville tour. But for any one to say that Jeff "never was a great hitter" and that he would "not last in a really fast bout" is too ridiculous to be given serious consideration even for a moment.

Jeff strikes the heaviest blow ever known in the prize ring. And before him Bob Fitzsimmons claimed the honor. Fitz, it is said, could at the time he fought Jim Corbett at Carson City deliver a blow (with his right, of course) that registered 750 pounds. Jeff's best trial efforts have registered 550 pounds. The best blow ever landed by John L. if their force had been measured,



WHEN IS A BOXER NOT A FIGHTER?

would probably not have exceeded 100 pounds of Fitzsimmons' best. For it was not the terrible force of John L.'s blows that counted so much in his victories. Rather it was the accuracy and effectiveness of delivery, combined with force, that gave him his reputation.

John L. discovered the knockout to the point of the jaw (the famous right cross), and the men of his time were not expert in guarding against it. Consequently John L. could land it almost at will. But against the men of today, Jeffries et al, he would not make his pet knockout good once in fifty times. They have too many guards for the right cross and the left hook to the jaw's point.

As to Jeff's speed in the ring or lack of it, as John L. states, why, the grizzled old war horse never in his life showed the speed of Jeffries. One reason was that John L. fought with his

hands and not with his feet—that is, he knew and cared very little about foot work. That branch of the game was undeveloped.

Then, too, he and his contemporaries fought chiefly on turf, and no man can be fast on turf. Carpet is smoother than turf, and no man can fight with speed on carpet for any considerable length of time. Fast fighting can be done only on canvas stretched over polished wood or on polished wood itself. The comparative roughness and elasticity of turf let out any man's legs as soon as he began fast, this work.

No John L. hasn't got much ground for his rash statements.

BEN TAVIS.

JENNINGS PRAISES HANLON. "Several years ago I told Ned Hanlon that I was going to leave baseball and study law," said Hugh Jennings, while

discussing his baseball career. "He told me my ultimate career was as a major league manager. I owe to Hanlon all that I ever was in baseball, and his quiet talks with me made me determined."

"Some time back, when I told him I was going to leave the Baltimore club, he expressed great regret, but pointed out his old prediction. At that a few days later Ned Hanlon without learning anything. Good players have admitted to me that they thought themselves novices after listening to his ideas of play. Hanlon originated a style of play that won pennants for Baltimore. As fast as other clubs copied the Baltimore idea he dug up something else."

"I attended law school at Cornell and worked along with students many years my senior. I learned that classroom nerve and baseball nerve were distinctly different. At that a few days later Ned Hanlon without learning anything. Good players have admitted to me that they thought themselves novices after listening to his ideas of play. Hanlon originated a style of play that won pennants for Baltimore. As fast as other clubs copied the Baltimore idea he dug up something else."

### HORSE RACER FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

J. H. Hildebrandt, of German South Africa, who ten years ago backed "Denver Ed" Smith, the fighter, against Joe Goudard in Johannesburg at a cost of \$25,000, arrived in New York a few days ago.

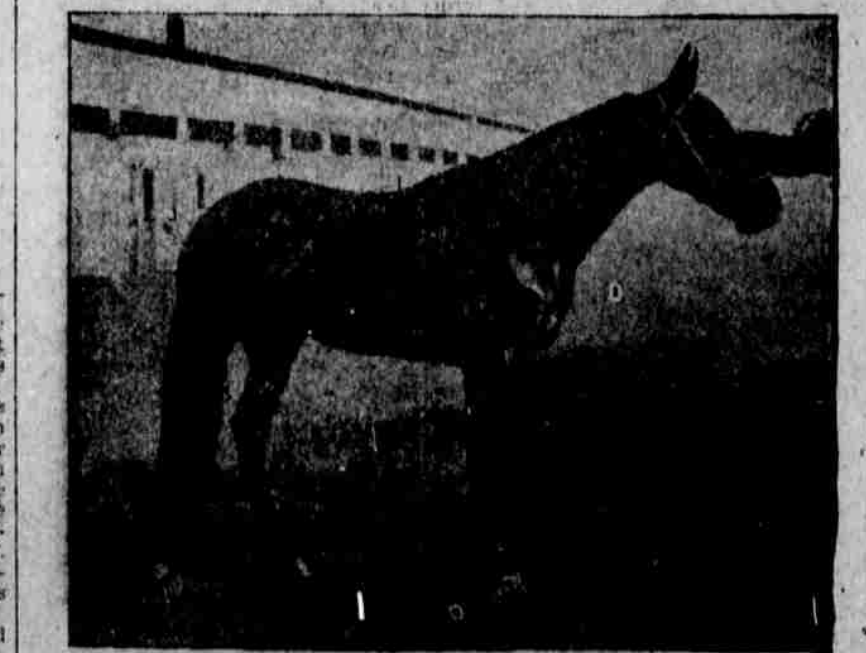
Mr. Hildebrandt has done a lot of racing in South Africa in ten years and says he has had his share of success on the turf. For two years he has been selling 15,000 or 16,000 horses to the German government at Swokopmund and Windhoek, German South Africa. They were from the United States and South America and also from the descendants of the Arabian steeds which Governor Van Riebeeck, the first Dutch governor, introduced into the Transvaal country. They were mostly from thirteen hands to fourteen hands two inches high, Mr. Hildebrandt said.

Mr. Hildebrandt has leased his stock farm, Good Hope farm, near Plumstead, South Africa, where he still has a large number of two and three year olds, which he may bring to this country.

The head of his stud was The Gown, son of the undefeated Barbedale of the English turf, which was sold to Lady Standford for 20,000 guineas. Mr. Hildebrandt says the way the progeny of Barbedale equal the records for seven furlongs and over is something wonderful.

### HAHN A FIRST BASEMAN.

Frank "Noodles" Hahn, late of the New York Highlanders, will play first base next season for the Lincoln lodge team of the Cincinnati Fraternal league. Hahn's pitching arm is gone, but he thinks he can cover the first bag good enough for an amateur team.



JOHN A. 2:08 1/4, NOW IN ED GEERS' STABLE.

John A. is a very promising pacer, a four-year-old chestnut, and Ed Geers has him at Memphis in preparation for the grand circuit. John A. was sired by Eddie Hall.

jump begins. The skillful jumper will make a hundred feet or more before landing.

The world's record jump was made four years ago in Norway. It is 124 feet 6 inches. That is almost phenomenal. But a number of Americans, most of them of Scandinavian extraction, however, have made better than a hundred feet. It is said that at a tournament where a hundred men are in competition the jumps will average sixty feet. The highly skilled men, of course, far surpass the average.

Skees are simply long strips or runners of pine or ash wood, about four inches wide and from six to ten feet long. They are turned up at the front end and are strapped to the feet about the middle. At this point the wood is an inch thick. The thickness tapers off toward the ends. The runner usually carries a long pole for steering or braking when running and for balancing himself when he takes the flying leap from the bump. Men who are experts in skee jumping disdains the assistance of the pole. It is advisable for most persons to carry one, however.

The jumper who lands upon his feet and keeps going wins over the one who may jump farther, but falls into the snow. While this sport may seem dangerous to the uninitiated, accidents seldom happen. It is highly exhilarating, as may be imagined.

President Roosevelt when he visited the Yellowstone park a few winters ago made an attempt to learn skee jumping, but he lacked the time to become an adept. The detachment of United States troops in that snowy region has skis, and the men wear them sometimes on duty.

In Norway, Sweden, Russia and Denmark there are regular skee regiments in the armies. These soldiers carry their rifles and a bag containing thirty-six pounds of provisions, blankets and clothes. They carry triangular canyons, which they put together at night to form tents.